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Background on US-USSR Student Exchange Program

At the present time there are 40 Soviet graduate students studying in American universities and 38 American students studying in the Soviet Union under the provisions of the US-USSR Exchange Agreement. In previous years the intelligence community has expressed concern over an imbalance in this program, and as the attached newspaper article indicates a legislative subcommittee has now registered its own negative attitude toward the program. The position of the intelligence community is that this imbalance in the exchange program results in a net scientific/technical loss for the US.

It is evident from the table attached that the imbalance continues to exist in both the fields of study and in the placement of the students. Of the 40 Soviet students, 24 are studying in scientific or technical fields and 16 in the social sciences or humanities. Only one US student is in a scientific field (mathematics). Twenty-six of the Soviet students are placed in eastern universities, 11 in the midwest, and 3 in western schools. The 38 American students are placed in either Moscow or Leningrad Universities.

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